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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Palese *et al.*

Confirmation No.: 7446

Application No.: 09/724,427

Art Unit: 1636

Filed: November 28, 2000

Examiner: McKelvey, Terry. A.

For: RECOMBINANT NEGATIVE STRAND
RNA VIRUS EXPRESSION SYSTEMS
AND VACCINES

Atty Docket No.: 7682-053

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 AND AMENDMENT TO
SEQUENCE LISTING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.825**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In responding to the office action dated January 24, 2003 and pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, please consider the following amendments and remarks prior to the examination of the above-captioned application.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Marked up versions of the following amended paragraphs are attached as Exhibit A.

Please amend the Specification as follows:

On pages 14 and 15, please replace the paragraph beginning, "FIG. 2." with the following paragraph:

--FIG. 2. Plasmid constructs used to prepare RNA templates. The plasmid design is depicted with the solid box representing pUC-19 sequences, the hatched box represents the truncated promoter specifically recognized by bacteriophage T7 RNA